

**In the Specification**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the first paragraph under the header, "RELATED APPLICATION," on page 1 with the following paragraph:

This application claims priority to and is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/576,475, filed May 23, 2000, entitled, "Multi-Beam Satellite Communications System", the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference. ~~This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/156,170 filed on September 27, 1999.~~